

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 /015 W  
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R 102037Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8950

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 2386

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC-HA (WOLKSTEIN, DIANE)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR STAG

REF: STATE 265034

1. AMBASSADOR IS DISAPPOINTED THAT DEPT UNABLE TO SATISFY EMBASSY REQUEST FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION STAG. STAG PROFESSOR WILLIAM LEONARD DOES NOT MEET THIS NEED SINCE LEONARD'S FIELD IS DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS AND WHAT WE HAVE ASKED FOR IS STAG IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. IF FRENCH LANGUAGE QUALIFICATION REMAINS A PROBLEM, WE WOULD ACCEPT ENGLISH SPEAKER PROVIDED HE IS EXPERIENCED AND FORCEFUL LECTURER. THIS SHOULD FACILITATE COST EFFECTIVE USAGE ELSEWHERE IN CARIBBEAN. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO FIND A QUALIFIED LECTURER IN THIS FIELD.

2. IN MEANTIME, WE PROPOSE AS ALTERNATIVE RECRUITMENT MS. DIANE WOLKSTEIN, OFFICIAL STORYTELLER OF NEW YORK CITY, IN SUPPORT POST'S CULTURAL OBJECTIVES. ON PRIVATE VISIT HERE LAST JANUARY--HER THIRD TO HAITI--WOLKSTEIN GAVE SPARKLING PERFORMANCES AT BNC AND ON TELEVISION WHICH DEMONSTRATED VARIETY AND VIVACITY OF THE STORYTELLING ART FORM IN AMERICAN LIFE AND WHICH DREW ON HER EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF HAITIAN FOLKTALES GATHERED IN THE BACK COUNTRY. SHE IS FLUENT IN BOTH FRENCH AND CREOLE.

3. AS STAG MS. WOLKSTEIN COULD MAKE A PARTICULARLY TIMELY CONTRIBUTION IN A FIELD OF GROWING IMPORTANCE. FACED WITH THE CHALLENGES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HAITIANS ARE REASSESSING THE VALUE OF THEIR UNIQUE BLEND OF AFRICAN/FRENCH CULTURE, AND  
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ARE EXPLORING HOW THESE VALUES--AND THUS THE HAITIAN IDENTITY--

MIGHT BE PRESERVED. MS. WOLKSTEIN, A GIFTED PROFESSIONAL FOLKLORIST WITH A DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN HAITIAN CULTURE AND FOLKTALES, COULD THROUGH FURTHER PERFORMANCES HERE REVEAL THE VITALITY OF HAITIAN FOLKLORE TO INFLUENTIAL PORT AU PRINCE AUDIENCES. BY THE SAME TOKEN SHE COULD EPITOMIZE AMERICAN RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR HAITI'S CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH HAS LONG BEEN A MAJOR ELEMENT IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, EVEN DURING PERIODS OF POLITICAL STRAIN.

4. WOLKSTEIN DESIRES RETURN TO HAITI WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS AND WOULD LIKELY BE AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMS IN OTHER CARIBBEAN POSTS.

5. SHE IS WELL KNOWN TO NEW YORK AUDIENCES FROM PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND FROM HER BIWEEKLY PROGRAM ON WNYC RADIO. ALSO HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY WILLIAM K. REILLY, PRESIDENT, CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, AND BY POST OFFICERS WHO SAW HER PERFORM AT PORT-AU-PRINCE BNC.

6. POST WOULD PROGRAM ON LOCAL TV, AT BNC, AND AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

7. ADVISE POSSIBILITIES SOONEST.  
ISHAM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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